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FANTASTIC FOUR
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JUNE
Fantastic Four
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MARVEL COMICS GROUP
IN THIS EPIC ISSUE...
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BEN, I--HAVE TO ASK YOU--TO POSTPONE YOUR SKI TRIP!
MISTER, THERE AINT NOTHIN' GONNA MAKE ME DISAPPOINT ALICIA!
NOT NOTHIN'!
BUT--WHAT IF JOHNNY NEEDS HELP?
YOU MEAN--THE TORCH IS IN SOME KINDA JAM?
I'M AFRAID THAT'S THE SIZE OF IT, BEN!
HE'S GONE TO ATTACK THE INHUMANS--TO BRING CRYSTAL BACK AGAIN!
HEY--THAT'S NUTTY! HE CAN'T TACKLE THEM--ALL BY HIS LONESOME!
HE WON'T STAND A CHANCE! THEY'LL MAKE MINCEMEAT OUTTA THE KID! YA GOTTA STOP IM!
IT'S TOO LATE! HE SLIPPED AWAY LAST NIGHT--LEAVING A NOTE BEHIND!
HE'S HALF-WAY THERE BY NOW!
BTOK!
NUTS! I'LL CLOBBER THE BRAT FER FOULIN' UP MY LOVE LIFE!
WE HAD PLANNED TO SPEND THE DAY WITH THE BABY--
BUT NOW--THERE'S NO TELLING WHEN WE'LL RETURN TO LITTLE FRANKLIN!
YA WANT I SHOULD LEND YA A CRYIN' TOWEL?
NO, OLD FRIEND--ONLY YOUR SUPPORT!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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THIS CAVE OPENING IS AS GOOD A PLACE AS ANY!
I'LL HAVE TO STAY HERE AND WAIT OUT THE STORM!
I'LL WAIT-- IF IT TAKES FOREVER! NOTHING'LL KEEP ME FROM CRYSTAL-- EVER AGAIN!
LOOKS LIKE IT'LL LAST ALL NIGHT!
MIGHT AS WELL MAKE A FIRE-- AND GET SOME SHUT-EYE!
I DIDN'T WANNA RUN OUT-- ON THE OTHERS--
--BUT CRYS IS MY GIRL--
SO, IT'S GOTTA BE-- MY FIGHT--
AND I'LL WIN IT! I'LL BRING HER BACK--NO MATTER WHAT THE ODDS!
AN OUTSIDER!
HUH??!
4

WHILE, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GLOBE--
WE'RE AWAY!
RRRRRRRRRRRRRR
WHAT IF WE DON'T REACH THE KID IN TIME!
DON'T SAY THAT, BEN! DON'T EVEN THINK IT!
PREPARE FOR ORBITAL INSERTION!
NO MATTER HOW MUCH OF A LEAD JOHNNY HAD--
THIS IS WHERE WE START TO WHITTLE IT DOWN!
REED! UP AHEAD-- LOOK!
A SUDDEN METEOR SHOWER!
WE'VE GOT TO FLY THRU IT!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST
Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

FANTASTIC FOUR #99: The Human Torch goes wild as he battles the Inhumans! It's the one you've been waiting for!

SPIDER-MAN #85: The surprise of the season! At last you will learn the shocking origin of the Schemer! It's a bombshell!

SILVER SURFER: #16: World's mightiest villain invades the earth to trap the Surfer! Don't miss — the hands of Mephisto!

AVENGERS #76: Can anyone or anything stop the thunderbolts of the man called Arkon? The Avengers must — or earth falls!

THOR #176: Evil Loki now rules Asgard! Thor must do his bidding! And if that's not bad enough . . . Surtur creates the — Inferno!

CAPTAIN AMERICA #126: In the teeming heart of Harlem, Cap rejoins the fighting Falcon in battle with the deadly Diamond-Head!

HULK #128: It had to happen! Ol' Greenskin takes on the mighty Avengers — in the middle of the San Andreas Fault, yet!

DAREDEVIL #64 DD goes Hollywood! The Stunt-Master goes bad — again! And that spells action all the way!

CAPTAIN MARVEL #20: Back at last! The sensational superhero who wouldn't die! But that was before he met — the Rat Pack!

IRON MAN #26: Happy Hogan in the clutches of the Collector! And Iron Man can only save him by capturing — the Solar Sword!

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CHAMBER OF DARKNESS #5: Cover story by King Kirby — at his most way-out, weird, and wondrous! Plus, two more dead-of-night shockers!

MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS #27: Three of Marvel's mightiest! The Fantastic Four — Doc Strange — and Iron Man! Bargainsville!

AND, OF COURSE—
RAWHIDE KID #77 — MILLIE THE MODEL #183 — CHILI #14 — MAD ABOUT MILLIE #12 — OUR LOVE STORY #5 — KID COLT #146!

AND, STILL ON SALE —
TOWER OF SHADOWS #5: The demon that devoured Hollywood — a haunted house — and a sword-and-sorcery swashbuckler!

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #26: If Daredevil doesn't grab you — if the X-Men don't move you — then make way for the Hulk!

MARVEL TALES #26: "The Final Chapter!" — one of Spidey's greatest! Plus Thor and the Human Torch! Get it!

Not to mention WHERE MONSTERS DWELL #3 — MY LOVE #5 — RINGO KID #3 — HOMER THE HAPPY GHOST #4 — and PETEY #4. Which we won't, of course.

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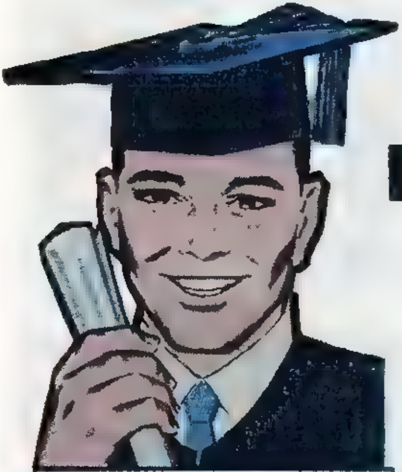

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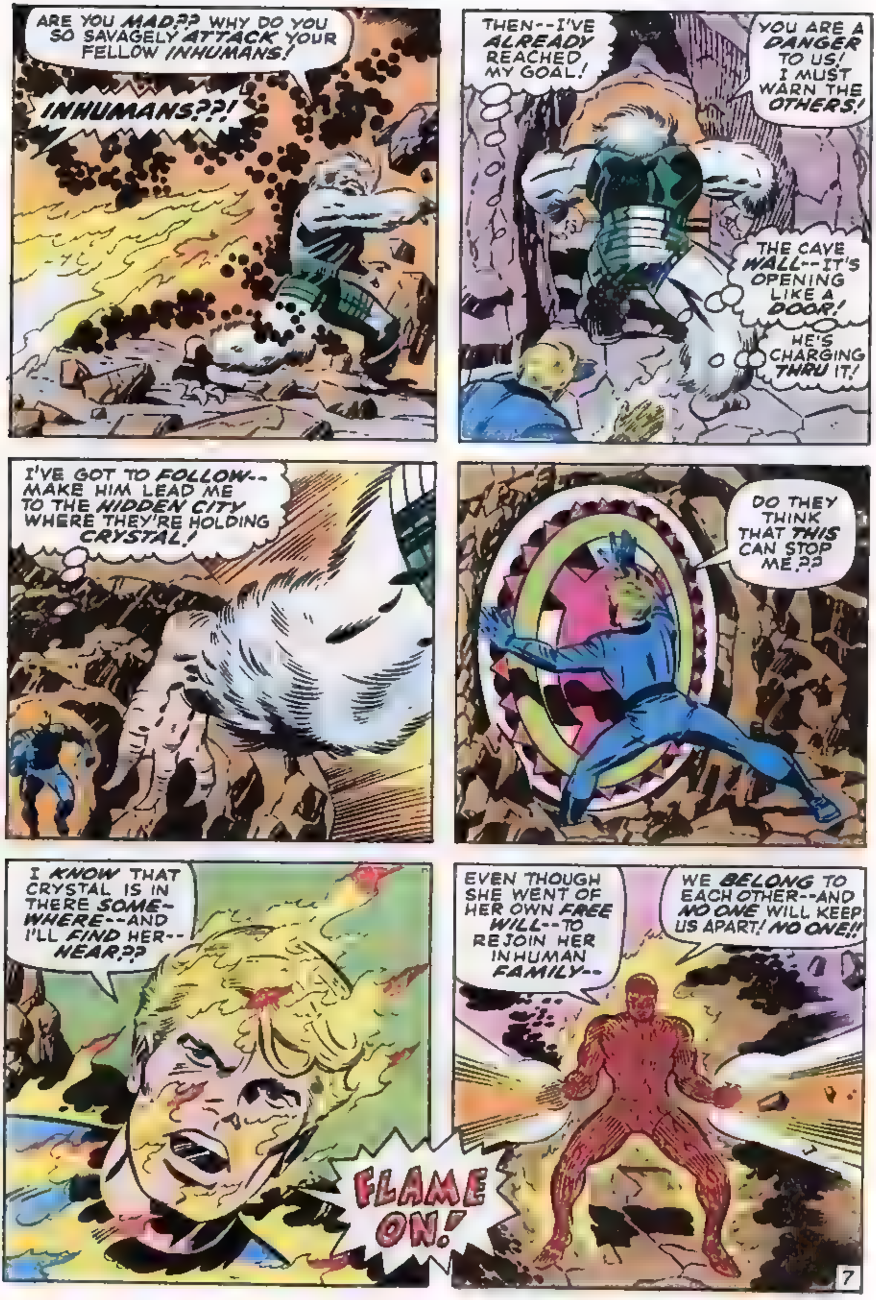
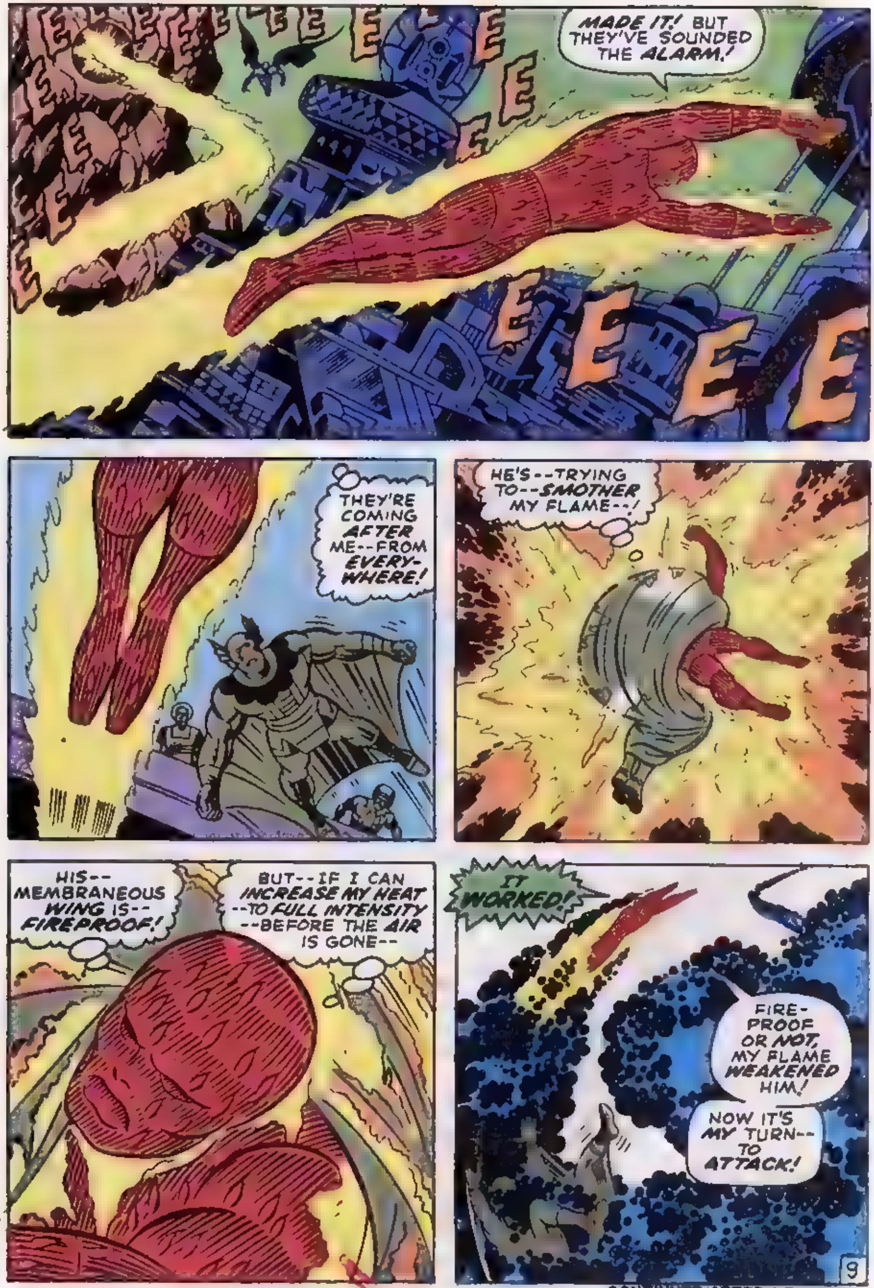

ARE YOU MAD?? WHY DO YOU SO SAVAGELY ATTACK YOUR FELLOW INHUMANS!
INHUMANS??!
THEN--I'VE ALREADY REACHED MY GOAL!
YOU ARE A DANGER TO US! I MUST WARN THE OTHERS!
THE CAVE WALL--IT'S OPENING LIKE A DOOR!
HE'S CHARGING THRU IT!
I'VE GOT TO FOLLOW--MAKE HIM LEAD ME TO THE HIDDEN CITY WHERE THEY'RE HOLDING CRYSTAL!
DO THEY THINK THAT THIS CAN STOP ME??
I KNOW THAT CRYSTAL IS IN THERE SOME-WHERE--AND I'LL FIND HER--NEAR??
EVEN THOUGH SHE WENT OF HER OWN FREE WILL--TO REJOIN HER INHUMAN FAMILY--
WE BELONG TO EACH OTHER--AND NO ONE WILL KEEP US APART! NO ONE!!
FLAME ON!

S-S-HOOOOSH!!
DEFEND YOURSELVES!! WE ARE ATTACKED!
YOU BETTER BELIEVE IT, BUSTER!
A TUNNEL AHEAD! IT MUST LEAD TO THE HEART OF THE CITY!
SO THAT'S WHERE I'M HEADING FOR--
--LIKE NOW!
HE FLIES TOO FAST! WE CANNOT STOP HIM!
NO MATTER! THE OTHERS WILL!
8



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Post Office__________ State____

Zip Code No.________

Print Your Last Name Plainly Here

HAVE TO KEEP THEM ON THE RUN!
MY ONLY HOPE IS SPEED-- AND THE UNEXPECTED!
--AND, SPEAKING OF THE UNEXPECTED--
HOLD YOUR FIRE! I DEMAND AN AUDIENCE-- IN THE PALACE OF BLACK BOLT!
IT MUST BE GRANTED! SUCH IS OUR LAW!
AND SO--
BLACK BOLT-- AND HIS FAMILY ROYAL--ARE THE MOST POWERFUL INHUMANS OF ALL!
BUT, IF CRYSTAL'S INSIDE-- NOT EVEN THEY CAN KEEP HER FROM ME!
THUS, ALONE AND UNAIDED IN AN ALIEN LAND, JOHNNY STORM UNHESITATINGLY THRUSTS OPEN THE GIANT PORTALS--AND FINDS--
ALL OF THEM-- TOGETHER!
--WAITING TO TAKE ME ON!
10

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

MINI-BULLETINS TO SKIM, SCAN, AND SAVOR!

ITEM! CAPTAIN MARVEL lives again — with the same great team of THOMAS, KANE, and ADKINS that knocked you for a loop a few months ago! Who says mighty Marvel doesn't listen to the fans?

ITEM! Now it can be told! The name of the mag which BARRY SMITH is drawing is — CONAN THE BARBARIAN! Watch for it! Who says mighty Marvel isn't on the move again?

ITEM! This you've gotta see — our own STAN LEE and JIM STERANKO have teamed up to produce the zingiest romance strip of all time in the current OUR LOVE STORY #5. Who says mighty Marvel doesn't do the unexpected?

ITEM! Those two new titles we told you about last ish will be — AMAZING ADVENTURES and ASTONISHING TALES. Each will feature TWO complete epics, and if you guess the INHUMANS, KA ZAR, the BLACK WIDOW, and DR. DOOM, you won't be far wrong! They'll be on sale early in May! Who says mighty Marvel doesn't keep its promises?

ITEM! Didja hear about STAN THE MAN rapping for hours with JOE McDONALD, BARRY MELTON, and their manager ED DENSON? Or maybe you know them better as COUNTRY JOE AND THE FISH! Anyway, don't be too surprised to hear of a Marvel rock album on sale one of these days! (If Irving Forbush could only sing!) Who says mighty Marvel's not taking over the whole funky world?

Don't worry, man!
THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST
is on another page!

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Okay, team — this time we'll pull a switcheroo. Instead of ME doing the yakkin', I'm gonna listen to YOU! Here's your chance to gather up your gripes and sock 'em to us! Don't pull your punches — just think of it as therapy for both of us! We'll announce the results of this swingin' little survey as soon as all the votes are in. Don't cop out, hear? If nothing else, think how this'll impress our mailman!

Excelsior!

Stan Lee

AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, THESE ARE MARVEL'S BEST:

PENCILLERS: 1. ________ 2. ________ 3. ________

INKERS: 1. ________ 2. ________ 3. ________

HEY, MAN, THESE ARE MY FAVORITE TYPES OF PLOTS:

THESE ARE THE KIND OF YARNS THAT TURN ME OFF:

WOW! THESE ARE THE TYPE OF MAGS YOU SHOULD DO MORE OF:

IF I WERE YOU, STAN (UGH!), THESE ARE THE CHANGES I'D MAKE AT MARVEL:

NAME ________________

ADDRESS ________________

Okay, pencil-pusher, time's up! Clip this out and send it to STAN LEE'S LITTLE SURVEY, 635 Madison Ave., N.Y.C.,10022. Thanks a heap, hero and consider yourself no-prized!

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STAND ASIDE! DON'T FORCE ME TO FLAME ON!
HALT! NONE MAY THREATEN THE THRONE OF BLACK BOLT!
TO BLAZES WITH BLACK BOLT--AND HIS THRONE! IT'S CRYSTAL I WANT!!
NO, JOHNNY--NO! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT WHAT YOU'RE DOING!!
BETTER LUCK NEXT TIME, KARNAK!
I'VE BEEN TAUGHT BY EXPERTS!
YOU YOUNG FOOL! HE MERELY POSITIONED YOU FOR MY OWN ATTACK!
MEDUSA'S HAIR! I BLUNDERED RIGHT INTO IT!
BUT, IN THE CASE OF TRITON--IT IS A DIFFERENT MATTER!
HAD KARNAK TRIED TO STRIKE YOU--YOU WOULD NOT HAVE SEEN THE BLOW!
12

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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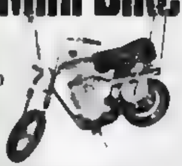

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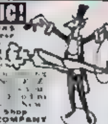

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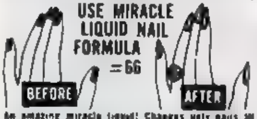

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BUT, BEFORE THE FINAL CURTAIN GOES UP, LET'S REJOIN THE FF AT INTER-MISSION--
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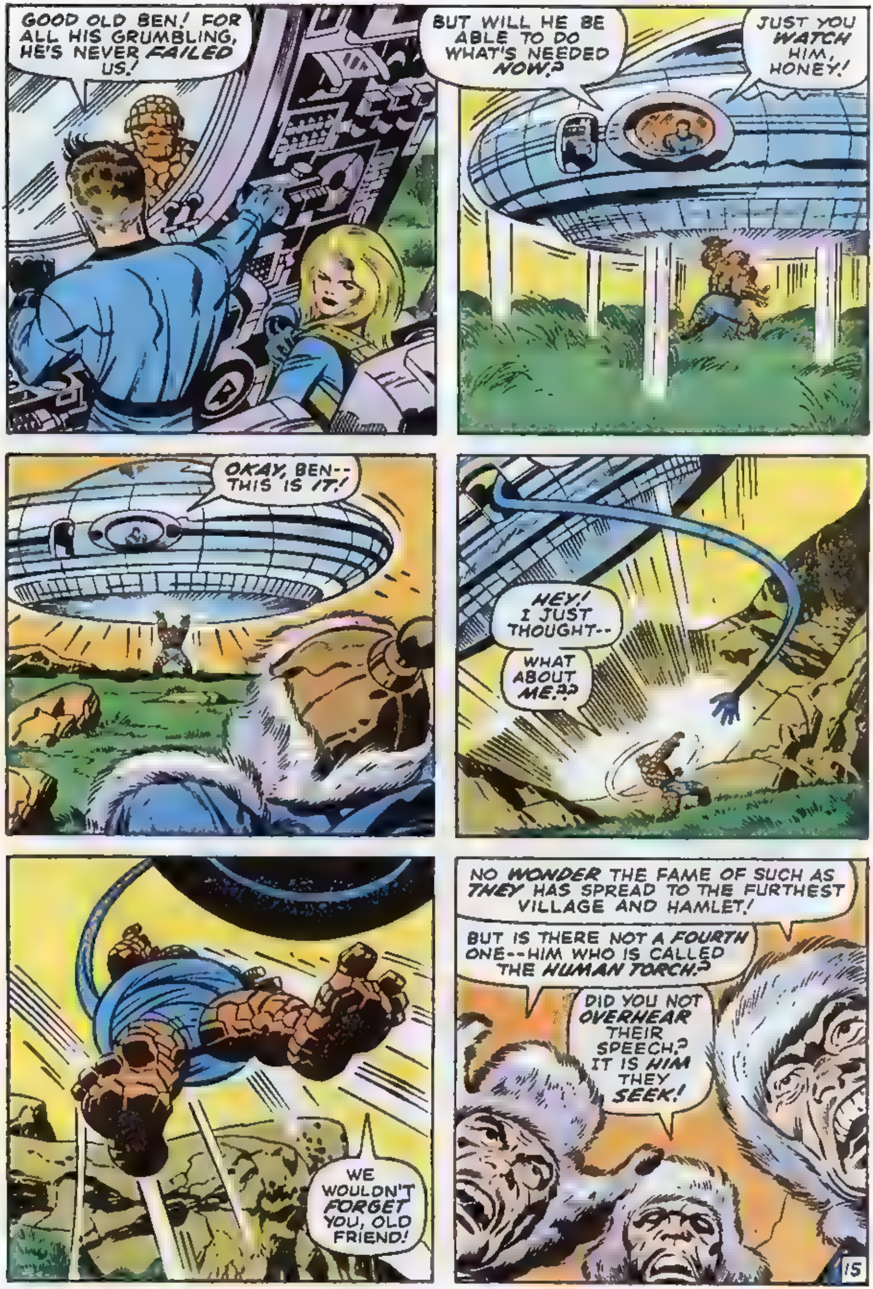
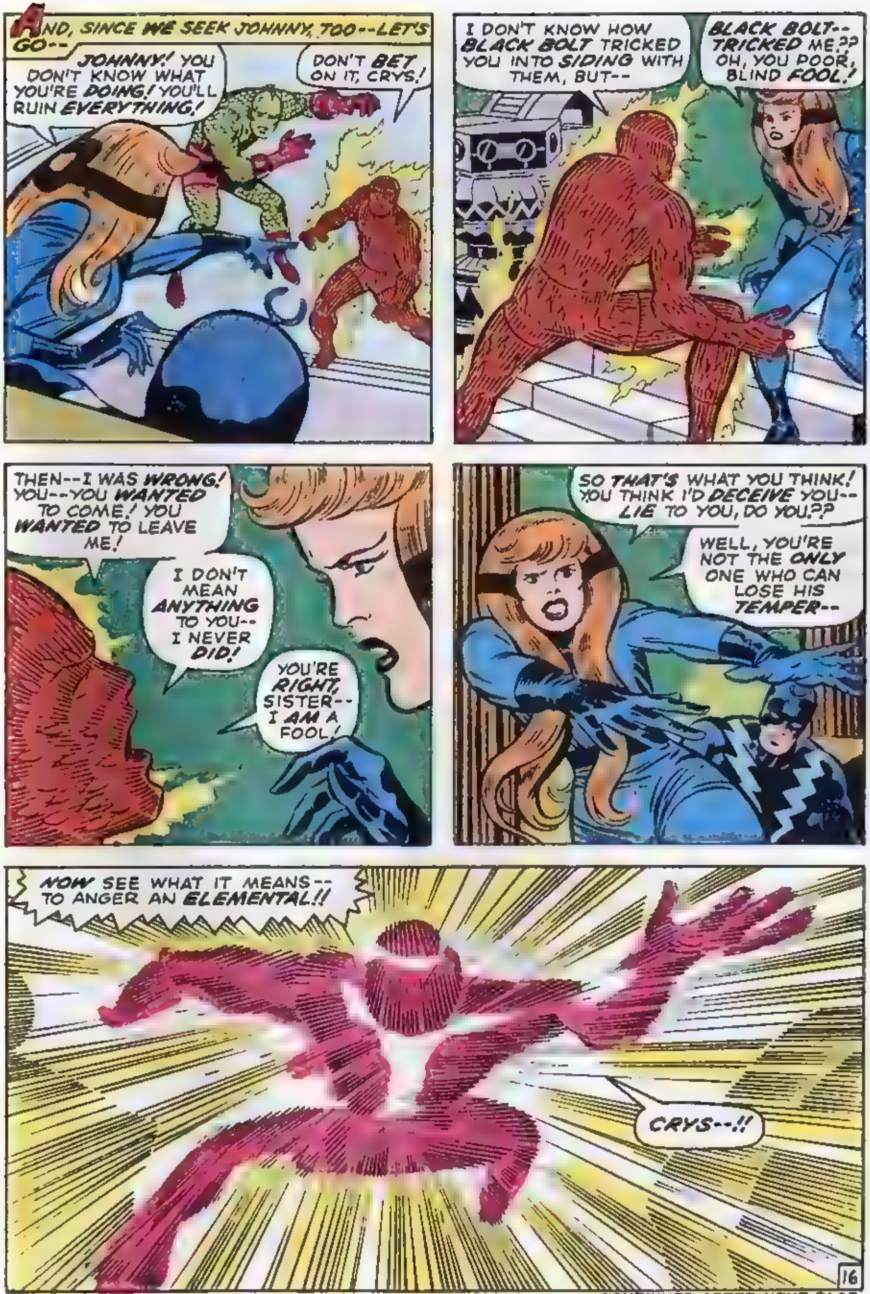
I'M ALMOST GLAD THAT METEOR FORCED US DOWN HERE FOR EMERGENCY REPAIRS--
I'VE ENJOYED OUR VISIT WITH YOU IMMENSELY!
EVEN IN THIS REMOTE AND LONELY LAND--
WE HAVE HEARD OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR--
--AND MARVELLED AT YOUR FEATS!
SUE--BEN! WE'RE READY TO ROLL!
I KNEW YOU'D FIX IT, DARLING!
MOVE IT, BIG FELLA! JOHNNY MAY BE FIGHTING FOR HIS LIFE!
WITHOUT A PROPER LAUNCH PAD, WE'LL NEED YOUR STRENGTH TO GIVE THE SHIP MOMENTUM AS IT BEGINS THE LIFT-OFF, BEN!
IF THERE'S A SLIP-UP-- WE'LL GET NO SECOND CHANCE!
OKAY! OKAY! I GIT THE MESSAGE!
14


GOOD OLD BEN! FOR ALL HIS GRUMBLING, HE'S NEVER FAILED US!
BUT WILL HE BE ABLE TO DO WHAT'S NEEDED NOW?
JUST YOU WATCH HIM, HONEY!
OKAY, BEN-- THIS IS IT!
HEY! I JUST THOUGHT--
WHAT ABOUT ME??
WE WOULDN'T FORGET YOU, OLD FRIEND!
NO WONDER THE FAME OF SUCH AS THEY HAS SPREAD TO THE FURTHEST VILLAGE AND HAMLET!
BUT IS THERE NOT A FOURTH ONE--HIM WHO IS CALLED THE HUMAN TORCH?
DID YOU NOT OVERHEAR THEIR SPEECH? IT IS HIM THEY SEEK!
15



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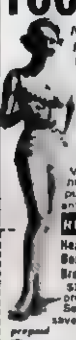
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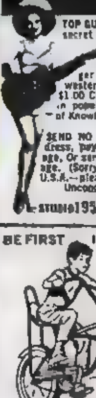
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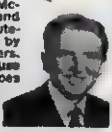
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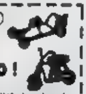

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OH, JOHNNY-- DID--DID I HURT YOU?
I--DIDN'T MEAN-- TO UNLEASH SO MUCH POWER!
YOU DIDN'T, HUH?
YOU FIGURED YOU COULD MAKE A CHUMP OUT OF ME LOTS EASIER THAN THAT!
WAIT! YOU STILL HAVE NOT LET HER EXPLAIN!
EXPLAIN WHAT? THAT I'VE BEEN TWO-TIMED BY AN EXPERT?
KARNAK! HE IS ABOUT TO FLAME ON!
NOT IF I CAN STRIKE HIM IN TIME!
FORGET IT!
I'M THRU BEIN' A FALL GUY FOR A BUNCH OF FREAKS!
NO, JOHNNY-- YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING!
MAYBE I DO, LADY-- FOR THE FIRST TIME!
17

I THOUGHT WE LOVED EACH OTHER! I THOUGHT IT WAS CRYS AND ME-- NO MATTER WHAT!
I TRAVELLED HALF-WAY 'ROUND THE WORLD JUST TO FIND HER AGAIN!
WELL, I FOUND HER, ALL RIGHT!
BUT THE LAST LAUGH'S GONNA BE ON ME!
I'LL MAKE 'EM WISH THEY'D NEVER HEARD OF THE HUMAN TORCH!
I'LL CREATE A FIRE-BALL-- SO BIG--
--THEY'LL NEVER SET FOOT OUT OF THIS PLACE AGAIN! I'LL SHOW 'EM WHAT--
HEY!!
WHAT'S THAT?? WHERE'D IT COME FROM??
ONE SINGLE METAL BAR--SHOOTING THRU MY FLAMES-- ABSORBING THE HEAT AND BREAKING UP THE FIRE BALL!
BUT-- BUT WHO?? HOW??
18

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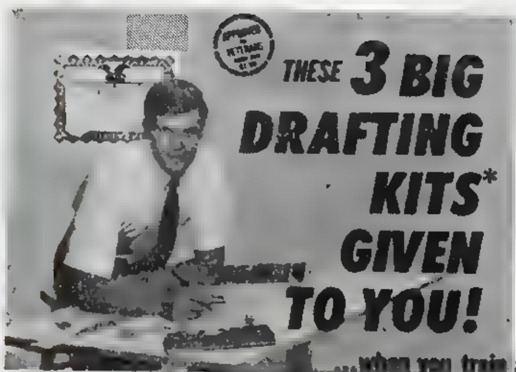

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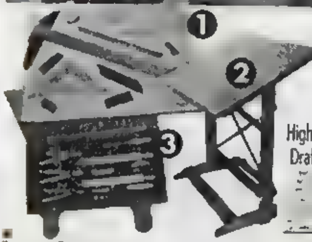

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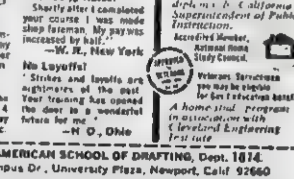

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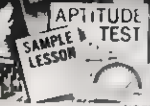

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BUT SHE WAS ONLY TRYING TO SAVE HER BROTHER'S LIFE!
FOR, THE SPEECHLESS BLACK BOLT HAD BEEN STRICKEN--DURING A RADIATION EXPERIMENT!
CRYSTAL WAS NEEDED TO TRANSMIT MICRO-SHOCK WAVES--TO KEEP HIS HEART BEATING--UNTIL I COULD RETURN!
GORGON!
BUT NOW I HAVE GIVEN OUR RULER THIS VIAL--AND HIS STRENGTH WILL BE RESTORED!
I DIDN'T EVEN--GIVE ANYONE--A CHANCE TO EXPLAIN!
YOU SAY YOU LOVE ME, JOHNNY! BUT LOVE MUST HAVE COMPASSION--AND UNDER-STANDING!
IT'S HARD TO BE UNDERSTANDING--WHEN YOUR GIRL IS--A MILLION MILES AWAY!
AWRIGHT, AWRIGHT! SHE AINT A MILLION MILES AWAY NOW, IS SHE?
WHAT'S WITH YA, JUNIOR? IS BLUE-EYED BENJAMIN THE ONLY GREAT LOVER IN THE WHOLE DANGED PLACE?
WILL YOU--FORGIVE ME, CRYS?
I'LL HAVE TO REMAIN HERE A WHILE LONGER, JOHNNY--TILL BLACK BOLT IS FULLY RECOVERED! CAN YOU--ACCEPT THAT NOW?
Y'KNOW SOMETHIN'? MEBBE I'LL MAKE THAT SKI TRIP YET!
20
NEXT
OUR LONG-AWAITED 100TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE!
DON'T MISS IT!

Fantastic Four (4) Fan Page

Send letters to LEE and KIRBY
THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP
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Dear Stan and Jack,

HISTORATOR OUTPUT 000-546.021K86

Purpose of Correspondence: To relate outcome of Kral battle, slaves versus government.

Hour Zero (0) ..... Slave games on Kral cease. Slave Torgo succeeds in freeing slaves and raising them in revolt. Slaves attack nearest Kral personnel. First attacks chaotic. Kral's organized forces besiege games area. Slave Torgo organizes rebel slaves. Succeeds in breaking siege and forcing back Kral army. Skrull ships (2) flee planet.* Sonic Disruption hurls one into Kral's sun. One lands on Earth.

Hour One (1) ..... Rebel slaves forced to disband. Find separate refuge in hills.

Hour 1.13 to Hour 72.12 ..... No important developments.

Hour Seventy-two (72) ..... Nearly all slaves in original revolt band together once again. Slave Torgo leads organized attack on space field where numerous Skrull ships are seized. Slaves flee Kral to respective home planets.

Hour Ninety-five (95) ..... All living slaves returned to home planets.

Hour One hundred (100) ..... Skrull leader refuses assistance to Skrulls trapped on Kral. All Skrull ships not seized were destroyed by rebel slaves. Refusal based on illegal impressment of slaves by Kral Skrulls. Ruler proclaims trapped Skrulls and any who would aid them to be traitors and banished from the planet Skrull forever.

*One of the two Skrull ships held Reed, Crystal, Johnny, and Ben, natch! The other one (the one that was cast into the sun by the remaining sonic disturbance left from the Slave Trainer's blasting of the asteroids) held Barker and Louie.

Ralph Duby, 4184 Hubbard
Lincoln Park, Michigan 48146

Thanks for the run-down, Ralph, and we'll be glad to accept your version of the Battle of Kral—at least, until and unless a couple of guys named Stan and Jack come up with their own version. But if and when they do—you're going to have some tall explaining to do, fella!

Dear Stan and Jack,

I have been a faithful, if fairly silent, follower of Marvel since August 10, 1961, when I became a charter subscriber to THE FANTASTIC FOUR.

I have watched Reed Richards change from a wild-eyed scientist type to a more level-headed, research-oriented scientist type: Sue Storm from a wide-eyed, helpless, damsel in distress to a fiercely proud wife and mother; Johnny Storm from a callous, brash teenager to a responsible team member; and Ben Grimm from a savage monster type to a poignant character whose essential, much like Victor Hugo's Quasimodo, is trapped in a grotesque form and whose very existence is a struggle to keep his brutish exterior from ruling his life.

So why the letter? Perhaps only to compliment you on the maturing of your foremost characterizations as they approach their 100th appearance. Perhaps to get my feelings in print (which would be a first for me). Or just perhaps to voice my appreciation—Remember, the first 100 issues are the hardest!

Fortunately for us, and perhaps unfortunately for you, however, you've set yourself such a standard of continuing improvement that, if the first hundred issues are the hardest, the next hundred will really pose a challenge. But, I guess that, in the long run, Marvel is the house of accepted challenges. I don't know how many ulcers you've accumulated in the process, but I sincerely hope that one fan's expression of appreciation (and I guess that's what this boils down to being—a fan letter) is worth a bottle of your favorite ulcer medication.

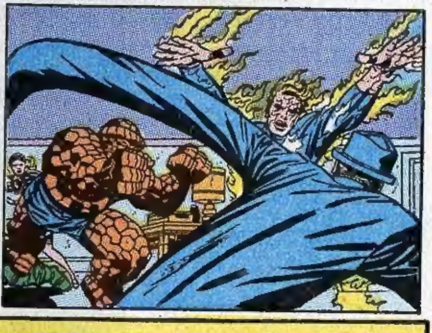
Thanks for a job well don.

RFO, TTB, KOF, David Charles Paskow
817 West 66th Ave.
Phila., Pa. 19126

And thank you for sticking with us thru it all, Dave. Which brings us to a question that's always plagued us: Although we know from letters which we receive that there must be quite a few people who have been F.F. fan-addicts since that fabled day 'way back in 1961, we've always wondered just how many of our current readers have been with us that long.

We've obviously picked up a large number of readers along the way just in sheer numbers of copies sold—and of course, as with all magazines, there has doubtless been something of a turnover in readers as well. We wonder, though—is it a mere 10% who bought that first historic issue on the neighborhood newsstand, or perhaps 25%, or even 50%? Oh well, we'll undoubtedly never know—and it doesn't really make any difference—but if there were a sure way to count noses, we'd bet Doc Doom's last death-ray that more readers have stuck with the F.F. for these past hundred issues as regular readers than have ever stuck with any other comic-mag for the same number of issues. And we're proud of them—each and every one.

What's more, for them—and for the johnny-come-latelies as well—we've got a special treat or two in store in our next, hundredth issue. Be with us then, friend—at which moment it'll be time to straighten those shoulders, take a deep breath, and brace yourself for the second hundred F.F. epics. And believe us, after all the plots we've used since 1961—it's the second hundred issues that're gonna be the hardest.



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Q.N.S. (Quite 'Nuff Sayer) — A fortunate frantic one who's had a letter printed.

K.O.F. (Keeper Of the Flame) — One who recruits a newcomer to Marvel's rollickin' ranks.

P.M.M. (Permanent Marvelite Maximus) —Anyone possessing all four of the other titles.

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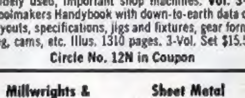

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